

Kucinich	Moore (KS)	Scott (VA)
Langevin	Moore (WI)	Serrano
Lantos	Moran (VA)	Sherman
Larsen (WA)	Nadler	Skelton
Larson (CT)	Napolitano	Slaughter
Lee	Neal (MA)	Smith (WA)
Levin	Oberstar	Snyder
Lewis (GA)	Obey	Solis
Lipinski	Oliver	Spratt
Lofgren, Zoe	Ortiz	Stark
Lowey	Owens	Strickland
Lynch	Pallone	Stupak
Maloney	Pascarell	Tanner
Markey	Pastor	Tauscher
Marshall	Payne	Terry
Matsui	Pelosi	Thompson (CA)
McCarthy	Price (NC)	Thompson (MS)
McCollum (MN)	Rahall	Tierney
McDermott	Rangel	Towns
McGovern	Reyes	Udall (CO)
McIntyre	Ross	Udall (NM)
McKinney	Rothman	Van Hollen
McNulty	Roybal-Allard	Velázquez
Meehan	Ruppersberger	Visclosky
Meek (FL)	Rush	Wasserman
Meeks (NY)	Ryan (OH)	Schultz
Melancon	Sabo	Waters
Menendez	Salazar	Watson
Michaud	Sanchez, Linda	Watt
Millender-	T.	Waxman
McDonald	Sanchez, Loretta	Weiner
Miller (NC)	Sanders	Wexler
Miller, George	Schiff	Woolsey
Mollohan	Schwartz (PA)	Wynn

ANSWERED "PRESENT"—2

Burton (IN) Sensenbrenner

NOT VOTING—7

Andrews	Johnson, Sam	Wu
Burgess	Paul	
Carson	Schakowsky	

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (during the vote). Members are advised there are 2 minutes remaining in this vote.

□ 1640

So the bill was passed.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FURTHER MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A further message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 3423. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with respect to medical device user fees.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative

days within which to revise and extend their remarks and that I may include tabular and extraneous material on the conference report to accompany H.R. 2361.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2361,
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2006

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, pursuant to House Resolution 392, I call up the conference report on the bill (H.R. 2361) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to House Resolution 392, the conference report is considered as having been read.

(For conference report and statement, see proceedings of the House of July 26, 2005 at page H6562.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. TAYLOR) and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. DICKS) each will control 30 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. TAYLOR).

□ 1645

Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today we bring before the House the conference agreement on H.R. 2361, the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2006. I would like to thank all of the members of the Subcommittee for their support and guidance this year. I want to extend special thanks to the subcommittee vice chairman, the gentleman from Idaho (Mr. SIMPSON), and the gentleman from Washington (Mr. DICKS), the ranking member and my good friend, for their assistance in shaping the bill. We are under last year, and we are under the allocation.

The conference report balances many competitive and diverse needs. It pro-

vides funding for programs in the Department of the Interior, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Forest Service, the Indian Health Agency, the Smithsonian Institution, and several other environmental and cultural agencies and commissions.

With the ongoing war on terrorism and a sizable Federal debt, the American taxpayer demands fiscal prudence, yet entrusts us to continue the conservation and care of our Nation's natural resources, the protection of the environment, and critical programs for native Americans and other programs. The needs far outweigh the funds available, but I believe this bill addresses the most critical needs.

The conference report is the product of a balanced, bipartisan, bicameral effort that resolves over 2,000 differences between the House and the Senate bills. Moreover, it addresses many of the key issues raised on the House floor in May and stays true to the fundamental issues that helped the bill pass overwhelmingly in the House. Here are a few of the highlights:

Payments in Lieu of Taxes are \$9 million over the enacted level. The arts and humanities are \$5 million each over the enacted level. Funding for operations of the national parks has increased by \$61 million. Restrictions remain in the bill for pesticide testing on human subjects. Funding for the Clean Water State Revolving Act is \$900 million, which is \$50 million above the House level and \$170 million above the budget request.

The Forest Health Program, which is critical to reducing this Nation's risk of catastrophic wildfires, is restored to the enacted level.

Finally, I am proud to say that this conference agreement contains \$1.5 billion in critically needed funds for veterans medical care.

Mr. Speaker, I believe the priorities of the American people are reflected in the conference agreement, and I urge all of my colleagues to support it.

I would like to thank staff on both sides of the aisle because, without their hard work, we would not be able to bring this bill forward at this time.

At this time, I will include a table detailing the various accounts in the bill for insertion in the RECORD.